(d) if answer, to part (b) above foe in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) Upto 31-3-1986, NCDC sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 58. 68 crore in respect of 4130 projects implemented by SC/ST cooperative societies. The beneficiary societies are registered in various States.

(b) to (d) One such multi-State Cooperative Society sought assistance of Rs. 821. 50 lakhs for: —

(i) margin money for distribution of fertilisers;

(ii) working capital for deep sea fishing for chartering of trawlers;

(iii) setting up of export oriented flowers & vegetables farm.

While considering the proposal, the Board of Management of NCDC resolved that since the proposal was the first of its type received by NCDC and since several policy issues were involved, the guidelines of the Central Government, may, in the first instance, be sought.

NCDC credit to cooperative societies

2931. SHRI BHAGATRAM MAN-HAR: SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) what are the number of societies registered so far under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act 1984;

(b) whether some of the registered Societies have requested for concessional credit from the NCDC and if so, what is the amount sanctioned, so-ciety-wise; and

(c) what is the criteria for providing loans to the Cooperative Societies of NCDC?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICUL-TURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) The Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 came into effect from 16th September, 1985. Prior to that date, there were 173 multi-state cooperative societies which are deemed to be registered under the Act. After coming into force of the Act, one multi-state cooperative society has been registered bringing the total number of such societies to 174.

(b) The request for concessional credit has so far been received by NCDC only from the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd., New Delhi. The Federation was sanctioned a soft loan of Rs. 12. 50 lakhs during 1985-86.

(c) While considering assistance to cooperatives, NCDC keeps the following criteria in view: -

(i) the type of cooperatives and activities covered under the NCDC Act;

(ii) willingness of the Central Government to guarantee the loan assistance to he provided by NCDC to multistate cooperative societies including National Level Cooperative Organisations;

(iii) approved pattern of assistance of NCDC for each scheme/ proposal;

(iv) viability of the Project, debt servicing capacity of the beneficiary institution etc.